



Accuracy assessment, standards and reporting of current and future topographic missions from the perspective of CEOS and the ISPRS

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Accuracy assessment

- Current techniques of assessing and reporting errors, e.g RMSE, bias, mean, standard deviation have limited potential as they often average out errors in DEM
- How should these statistics be stratified to be more useful?
 - By height
 - By slope
 - By land cover type
- New techniques are required for quantifying errors and both CEOS-WGCV-TMSG and ISPRS are keen to promote research work in this area

DEM standards

- Is the DTED®-1/2 an adequate specification sufficient to characterise the errors?
- How could we better characterise the errors on a per tile basis?
- Is there a need for CEOS-ISPRS to try to define DEM accuracy standards so that Satellite data producers fully understand ?
- Or should this be done by another standards body?

DEM error reporting

- The MODIS Land Team have developed an online facility, for the cloud mask this is shown at
http://landweb.nascom.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/QA_WWW/newPage.cgi?fileName=terra_issues
- MODIS Land Users can report error descriptions via a moderated forum together with an image example of where these errors were found
- Would it be helpful to have such a facility for SRTM and future topographic products